



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# California Farm News

Cooperating with the California Department of Food and Agriculture

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## USDA TO SURVEY SMALL GRAIN PRODUCTION

SACRAMENTO, August 20, 2007 – How many acres of grains and oilseeds did California farmers plant and harvest this season? What were the actual yields of those harvested acres? How much of each commodity is stored on-farm? These will be some of the critical questions representatives of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be soon be asking of more than 1,700 producers statewide as part of the September 2007 Agricultural Survey.

"The September Agricultural Survey is one of the most important annual surveys conducted by NASS," explained Vic Tolomeo, Director, USDA-NASS, California Field Office. "Survey results provide the basis for official USDA estimates of production and harvested acres for all major agricultural commodities for the 2007 crop year. "California farmers are provided timely and accurate information to help make critical year-end business decisions and evaluate the success of the growing season," said Tolomeo. "California needs to be fairly represented in a nationwide sample of nearly 65,000 agriculture producers.

Survey participants will be contacted by mail or telephone during the first two weeks of September. They will be asked to provide information on their 2007 production and on-farm stocks. Once compiled and analyzed, the information will be published in a series of USDA reports including the annual *Small Grains* summary and quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released on September 28.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by survey respondents is confidential by law (Title 7, U.S. Code). "We safeguard the confidentiality of all survey responses," Tolomeo reminds producers. "Individual information is combined with other responses and published only as part of State, regional and national summaries. No individual person or operation can be identified."

Visit the NASS web site at [www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/) to see all NASS reports, as well as a comprehensive collection of other data on U.S. agriculture. Reports and additional information can also be obtained by calling the NASS Hotline at 1-800-727-9540.

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